

AMENDMENT

(Under Article 11 of Japanese Law Concerning
International Applications, etc. Pursuant to PCT)

To : Director General of the Patent Office

1. Identification of the International Application

PCT/JP2004/005983

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4. Item to be Amended

Claims and Page 3 of Specification

5. Contents of the Amendment

(1) Claim 1 have been amended.

(2) Claims 2, 3 have been deleted.

(3) Lines 12 and 13 in Page 3 of Specification have been
amended to conform with Claim 1.

6. List of Attached Documents

New pages of Specification: pages 3 and 3/1

(English Specification: Page 4)

New pages of claims: page 29

(English claims: Pages 43 - 45)

Hereinafter, the present invention is explained in detail.

The instrument for inducing a cytokine of the present invention comprises hemolytic streptococcus and/or a hemolytic streptococcus-origin component which induces a cytokine, a water-insoluble carrier having an effect for enhancing induction of a cytokine, and a container comprising hemolytic streptococcus and/or the hemolytic streptococcus-origin component and the water-insoluble carrier.

10 The carrier may be any water-insoluble carrier and is not specifically limited. Examples of the material which constitutes the carrier include inorganic materials, organic materials and metals, preferably inorganic materials and organic materials. Among the inorganic materials, carbon materials are preferred, and among the organic materials, polymer materials are preferred. Among these, active carbon is further preferred.

20 Examples of the inorganic materials include carbon materials such as active carbon, glass or glass derivatives, silica-based compositions, alumina, hydroxyapatite and the like. Among these, carbon materials are preferable, and among the carbon materials, active carbon is preferable.

 The carbon material is a carbonized substance obtained by calcining an organic compound according to any conventionally known method. The active carbon is obtained by

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CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An instrument for inducing a cytokine, which comprises hemolytic streptococcus and/or a hemolytic
5 streptococcus-origin component which induces a cytokine, a water-insoluble carrier having an effect for enhancing induction of a cytokine, and a container comprising the hemolytic streptococcus and/or the hemolytic streptococcus-origin component and the water-insoluble carrier.

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2. (Deleted)

3. (Deleted)

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4. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the hemolytic streptococcus and/or the hemolytic streptococcus-origin component have been fixed on the water-insoluble carrier.

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5. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the water-insoluble carrier comprises a polymer material.

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6. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 5, wherein the polymer material is a porous polymer

material.

7. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the polymer material comprises at least one kind selected from the group consisting of a polystyrene-based polymer material, a polyacrylic ester-based polymer material, a polypropylene-based polymer material and a polyvinyl chloride-based polymer material.

10 8. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the water-insoluble carrier comprises a carbon material.

9. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 8, wherein the carbon material is an active carbon.

10. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 9, wherein the active carbon has a diameter of more than 100 μm and not more than 10000 μm .

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11. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the active carbon is an active carbon obtained from at least one kind of raw material selected from the group consisting of a petroleum pitch, a phenolic resin, a coal and a coconut husk.

12. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to any one of claims 1 to 11, which is used for the induction of a cytokine production in a cell which can produce a cytokine.

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13. The instrument for inducing a cytokine according to claim 12, wherein the cell which can produce a cytokine is a cell derived from blood or a blood constituent.

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14. A method for inducing a cytokine, which comprises inducing a cytokine using the instrument for inducing a cytokine according to any one of claims 1 to 13.